

stating that eight out of ten of our state prisoners should be in a hospital. This man, like all such, was a "world authority," a "savant," a "specialist," and of course a "doctor."

It is reported that this "specialist" held a lecture clinic in a hotel, at which he "challenged the active interest of a group of prominent San Francisco physicians and surgeons with the statement that chronic bronchitis, chronic deafness, rheumatism, earache, stiff neck, nervous debility, melancholia, neuralgia, infantile paralysis, tonsillitis, lumbago, congestive headache, menopause, varicose ulcers, high blood pressure and numerous other ailments would yield to electro-therapy. Only through electrical stimulus, he urged, can torn muscles and nerves be restored to normalcy."

Some challenge!

Dishonest Slogans—A health slogan that is truthful or that definitely implies may be of value in constructive health work. Conversely, one that implies what is not a fact unquestionably does harm to the worthy cause it proposes to help.

Of the seemingly endless variety of the widely quoted health slogans, a substantial percentage are definitely untrue in fact, imply the false, and what is perhaps even more harmful, they state or imply indefiniteness and ambiguity. One of these now before the public is particularly untrue and is constantly being challenged. It is to the effect that "a physically handicapped child cannot be properly educated."

The medical record of the leading men in all walks of life of this or any other period will show that a quite substantial percentage of them have now and have had from their early school days definite recognizable and understood physical handicaps. Of course, life's promises and opportunities are improved by the removal or amelioration of handicaps wherever and whenever possible, but to make a slogan definitely calculated to discourage the thousands of youths who have incurable handicaps and which at the same time is an insult to many of our leading citizens, is unwise and reprehensible.

An American "College" of Plastic Surgery Organized—Another national "college" of a specialty of medicine was recently organized with headquarters in Chicago. T. Floyd Brown of Los Angeles is president and J. Paul Fernel of Chicago is secretary of the new organization. The first purpose of the new college, according to reports, is to establish a graduate school.

It is said that this new organization will not follow the international association of the same group recently formed in London and include the work of "beauty specialists" in their field.

Campers Carry a Spade—Under this title the Bulletin of the California Health Board carries a sane brief article that ought to be read and re-read by every vacationist.

The Chicago Session—Local Committee of Arrangements—The Local Committee of Arrangements for the Seventy-fifth Annual Session of the American Medical Association, to be held in Chicago, June 9-13, 1924, consists of: Chairman, J. W. Van Derslice; treasurer, John S. Nagel; secretary, Hugh N. MacKechnie, and Isaac A. Abt, Archibald Church, D. J. Davis, Ludvig Hektoen, C. E. Humiston, Frank Morton and J. H. Walsh. Mrs. Charles Spencer Williamson will serve as chairman of the Ladies' Entertainment Committee. The office of the Local Committee of Arrangements is located in Room 1522, Marshall Field Annex, 25 East Washington street, Chicago. This committee is ready to extend any assistance within its power to physicians who expect to attend the Chicago Session. The committee has held a number of meetings, and great progress has been made in arranging the important details of the session. The committee may be addressed as indicated above by any who desire information.—Journal A. M. A., February 9, 1924.

COUNTY NEWS

ALAMEDA COUNTY

Alameda County Medical Association (reported by Pauline S. Nusbaumer, secretary)—Providence Hospital staff held its annual banquet April 8, at the Hotel Oakland. Some sixty-five members gathered around the festive board. The guests and speakers of the evening were J. Wilson Shiels of San Francisco, Ezra Decoto and W. H. L. Hynes of Oakland.

At the regular monthly meeting of the staff of the Alameda County Hospital, the following papers were presented: "Hydronephrosis," by A. M. Meads. "Brain Surgery in Case of Post-traumatic Epilepsy," by E. W. Goodman.

At the staff meeting of the Samuel Merritt Hospital, pinicillium infection of the lung was discussed by Charles McVey. Sumner Everingham gave an analysis of the cases of intestinal obstruction in this hospital during the year 1923.

The following case reports were presented at the Fabiola Hospital staff meeting, March 25: Carcinoma of the stomach, with pathological specimens—E. G. Simons. Radiographs of the same case, showing development of the lesion over a period of six months—Charles E. Peters. Electrical burn of the elbow and gluteal region, with presentation of case. Osteomyelitis of femur, with radiographs. Foreign body in the bronchi, with x-ray pictures—E. A. Majors.

Papers on "Late Pulmonary Hemorrhage, Following Fractured Ribs," by W. L. Bell, and "Caudal Anesthesia," by A. M. Meads, were also presented.

The staff meetings of the hospitals are well attended, and the discussions are interesting and instructive.

Alameda County Institutions' Commission—The membership of this commission has been increased from six to nine, and three physicians were elected to fill the newly created positions: George Rothganger, G. G. Reinle, and Guy H. Liliencrantz. As O. D. Hamlin and R. G. Legge are already members, this gives five out of the nine positions to the medical profession.

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Contra Costa County Medical Society (reported by L. St. John Hely, secretary)—The regular monthly meeting was held at Crockett March 29.

The lecture by Hans Lissner of San Francisco discussed the subject of ductless glands. This lecture was illustrated by lantern slides. The doctor covered as much of the pathology and treatment of the ductless glands as the time would permit. The value of this lecture is hardly appreciated until it is digested. The average physician, whether practicing in large or small communities, is groping in the dark, in regard to the treatment of ductless gland disturbance. This lecture would certainly enlighten them; so at least was the expression of the members who were fortunate enough to be present at Crockett. There is a wish among the members to have Lissner deliver a series of at least three lectures along this subject to the society.

The lecture was held at the Crockett auditorium, from whence the members were invited by mine host, J. M. McCollough, to a luncheon and picture show at the Crockett Hotel.

The following members were present: Clara and J. B. Spalding, William A. Rowell, John Beard, F. Lisle Horne, H. L. Carpenter, Hall Vestal, J. M. McCollough, L. St. John Hely.

FRESNO COUNTY

Fresno County Medical Society (reported by T. Floyd Bell, secretary)—The regular meeting of the Fresno County Medical Society was held at the

Nurses' Home of the General Hospital of Fresno County on April 1, 1924. Twenty-three members and six visitors were present. Members—Adams, Aller, Barrett, Bell, Brown, Dearborn, Goldberg, Jamgotchian, James, Jorgensen, Kjaerbye, S. M. Long, Manson, Mordoff, Milholland, Newton, Pettis, Pomeroy, Schottstaedt, Sheldon, Scorbora, Tillman, and Tupper. Visitors—H. O. Collins, Cook, Gregory, Burk, Victor Randolph, and Harry Robertson.

Doctor Kjaerbye reported for the Crime Commission on the advantages of using county prisoners for common labor on the county roads. Tillman moved, Couey seconded, that the Fresno County Medical Society endorse the recommendation of the Crime Commission for the use of county prisoners on the county roads.

W. R. P. Clark, director of the Bureau of Tuberculosis, San Francisco Board of Health, gave an interesting talk on tuberculosis. He first dwelt on the work being done in San Francisco, the need for further work, and the immediate plans for the future in the care of tuberculous patients. He next exhibited some x-ray films of the chest, discussing the differential diagnosis of tuberculosis.

James T. Watkins of San Francisco presented a paper on the "Diagnosis and Treatment of Back Injuries." He took up also the static troubles of the back. He considered strains, and slips of sacro-iliac and lumbo-sacral joints; also fractures of the vertebrae and their treatment in detail. Discussion—Adams, Aller, and Watkins.

The application of H. M. McNeil of Big Creek was read and referred to the proper channels for action.

The application of G. C. Nedry was reported on favorably by the state association and the board of censors, and he was unanimously elected a member of the society.

After adjournment a buffet lunch was served.

Burnett Sanitarium—The twenty-fourth annual graduation of nurses of the Burnett Sanitarium of Fresno took place April 1, 1924, at the Y. M. C. A. The exercises were preceded by an alumni dinner at the Burnett.

Mr. David Ewing gave the address of the evening to the graduating class. Rev. G. W. Fletcher offered the prayer and gave a short address. Miss Little, superintendent, and D. H. Trowbridge, secretary, gave talks to the graduates.

A wrist watch was presented to Miss Grace Von Volkinburg, the gift of Trowbridge, for the best practical work during the course of her training. Miss Maries Sievking received a diamond pin, the gift of Maupin, for the highest marks in theoretical work. Miss Dorothy Waag and Miss Annie Olsen received honorable mention for excellent work in practice and theory. Many of the staff doctors and their wives were present, besides the relatives and friends of the graduates. The evening was concluded by a dance.

MARIN COUNTY

Marin County Medical Society (reported by J. H. Kuser, secretary)—The society met March 27 at Jones' office, San Rafael.

Members present: President Dufficy, Jones, Mays, Kuser.

The invited guest of the evening was Thomas Addis of Stanford Medical School, who gave an interesting talk on nephritis, which was of great interest to all those present.

Owing to a previous meeting during the same week, but few members were present.

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

San Bernardino County Medical Society (reported by E. J. Eytinge, secretary)—On April 1 the society held its regular meeting at the County Hospital, San Bernardino, with thirty-five present, forty absent, ten guests.

The program consisted in "Observations in Surgical Pathology," by C. G. Hilliard; discussion opened by E. J. Eytinge. "Prophylaxis and Treatment of Non-

Toxic Goiter," by D. C. Mock; discussion opened by K. L. Dole. "Treatment of Toxic Goiter," by Joseph K. Swindt of Pomona; discussion opened by Phillip Savage.

R. L. Alexander of Ontario has transferred his membership to the Pomona Valley Section of the Los Angeles County Society.

J. A. Connell, formerly located at San Bernardino, is now located in Riverside, and has been transferred to that society.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

San Diego County Notes (reported by Robert Pollock)—Quite a group of the San Diego County members motored to Santa Barbara to participate in the spring meeting of the Southern California Medical Association, held in Santa Barbara early in April. They enjoyed a splendid program.

Hospital activities in San Diego are rapidly assuming definite form. The new Mercy Hospital, of the Mercy Sisterhood, to replace their former building, which has served its purpose so long under the name of St. Joseph's Hospital, has its roof completed and in a few days will permit of my sending the Journal a photograph of the finished product. The new La Jolla Hospital, of fifty beds, has reached a similar stage, and being a smaller structure, will probably be completed, furnished and opened to the public in about ninety days. These two hospitals, added to the splendid Naval Hospital, present a group of modern structures for the care of the sick of which San Diego may well be proud. The proposed new McCullough Hospital, a private enterprise which has in the past thoroughly demonstrated its utility, has its plans completed, its ground selected and will undoubtedly enter its new quarters before the first of next year. Renewed activity is also in evidence to build a community hospital, a magnificent site overlooking the park having recently been donated for that purpose. This movement, which has been feeling its way carefully for some time, will take the form of a modern hospital, built by all the people for all the people and expressive of the modern idea of helpful citizenship.

The county society, to the number of twenty-five, recently visited the Imperial County Society at El Centro and presented a symposium on our views of the value of insulin after our first year of experience with it. Papers on the subject were presented by L. H. Redelings and Robert Pollock, and liberal discussion was entered into by Burger, Burton, Harding, Howard, Rees, Stealy, Thornton, Redelings and Pollock. H. P. Newman at the same meeting made a strong appeal for the support of the Gorgas idea, while Councilor Carrington made an interesting talk on what the state council has recently been doing for the profession it represents. At the conclusion of the meeting Kinney, on behalf of the San Diegans, extended a cordial invitation to the Imperial County Society to furnish a scientific program in San Diego, Saturday, June 28, and enjoy such hospitality as that city wishes to extend.

At the regular meeting, held in Science Hall, Balboa Park, April 8, Mott H. Arnold presented a terse and well-constructed paper on Pyloric Obstruction in Infancy. As a model of briefness, conciseness of statement and thoroughness in covering the subject, his paper left little to be desired. Discussion, like the paper itself, was brief and to the point, and at its conclusion Charles R. Ball of St. Paul, Minnesota, responded to an invitation from the chair with an extremely interesting discussion of Syphilis in Relation to the Nervous System.

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY

Proceedings of the San Francisco County Medical Society (reported by J. H. Woolsey, secretary)—During the month of March, 1924, the following meetings were held:

Committee on Medicine—March 4. The interest of the general man in neuropsychiatry—M. B. Lennon;

Tryparsamid therapy in neurosyphilis—H. G. Mehrrens.

General Meeting—Tuesday, March 11. New Constitution and By-Laws adopted; Observations on ovarian auto-transplantations—F. R. Girard; Testicular substance implantations—L. L. Stanley, San Quentin.

Committee on Surgery—Tuesday, March 18. Diagnosis of intracranial injuries—H. W. Fleming; Treatment of intracranial injuries—H. C. Naffziger.

Committee on Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat—Tuesday, March 25. Clinical meeting at Stanford University Hospital.

Southern Pacific General Hospital Staff Meeting (reported by W. T. Cummins, secretary)—The monthly staff meeting of the Southern Pacific General Hospital, San Francisco, was held on April 2 in Huntington Hall. Program: "Backache," by Walter I. Baldwin; discussions—Stanley Stillman and W. B. Coffey, Surgical; G. J. McChesney, Orthopedics; Fred W. Lux, Medical; W. F. Schaller, Neurological; G. L. Eaton, Genito-Urinary; M. P. Burnham and L. B. Crow, Roentgenological.

Franklin Hospital Staff Meeting (reported by Adolph Rosenthal, medical director)—The monthly staff meeting of the Franklin Hospital was held on Monday, March 24, J. Wilson Shiels presiding.

The speaker of the evening was M. P. Burnham, who delivered an interesting lecture on "Dyspepsias, Reflex to Chronic Infective Lesions of the Liver and Its Distributing System," illustrated with typical x-ray plates. The subject prompted more than the usual discussions by Guilfoil, Harder, Ingber, Rodenbaugh, Yoell and Shiels.

All felt that they owe a debt of gratitude to Burnham for his masterful presentation of the subject.

St. Joseph's Hospital Staff Meets—On April 9 St. Joseph's Hospital Staff met and heard case reports from C. O. Southard (mastoiditis), A. S. Musante (pancreatic carcinoma and cholecystectomy), E. T. Krebs (cerebral embolism), and C. E. Smith (chronic bronchitis).

C. E. Nixon spoke on "Neurological Errors in General Practice," demonstrating that nervous diseases simulated many other conditions, on account of the distribution of the nerves. Syphilis is the most common imitator, especially as exemplified in the early gastric, laryngeal and bladder crises of tabes dorsalis; and spinal fluid examination is needed to differentiate. Encephalitis, obesity, hysteric symptoms, numbness, brain and cord tumors, cervical ribs, and peripheral neuritis were described and the prognostic importance of an early diagnosis shown. Sterling Bunnell spoke on "Indications and Methods for Blood Transfusion." Effects of this procedure are an increase of volume pressure, antiseptic and hematopoietic properties of blood. Indications are acute and chronic bleeding, shock, anemia, especially secondary, cachexia, even of infants, chronic and acute sepsis, the latter debatable; burns, operations on icteric patients, hemophilia and hemorrhagia neonatorum, purpura, leucemia, lead poisoning, pellagra and gas poisoning. Reactions from the citrate method and pure blood were compared. Typing of bloods and the Kimpton-Brown technique, and accidents and their prevention were explained by demonstration of the apparatus.

L. Crow showed radiograms of pulmonary infarct, hypernephroma bone lues, abdominal aneurysm, and pericarditic effusion. C. E. Smith presented pathological specimens of brain, liver, heart and abdomen.

The program for May 21 follows: "Specific Obligations of Physicians Under the Law," by Mr. Hartley F. Peart; "Local Police Regulations Affecting Doctors," by Captain Duncan Matheson, and "Plastic Surgery," by G. W. Pierce.

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

Santa Barbara County Medical Society (reported by Alex C. Soper, secretary)—The society held its regular meeting April 14 at the Cottage Hospital, President Robinson in the chair. Present, twenty-two members, four interns and one guest.

The matter of the proposed Therapeutic Gymna-

sium was again tabled, due to press of other business. Correspondence was read, with the State HQ., regarding Industrial Medicine Questionnaire, regarding Medical Defense, with the A. M. A. regarding "Hygeia" magazine, and notice again made of society dues payable.

The secretary brought to attention the character of the patent medicine ads being carried over the names of leading drug stores in town, as being inimical to the interests of the ethical medical profession; and it was moved, seconded by Pierce, that the president appoint a committee to investigate the matter and to draw up a letter to be approved by the society, protesting against such ads. Passed unanimously. Pierce, Stevens and Soper were appointed.

Case reports followed, each five minutes: "Bone metastasis in carcinoma of the prostate"—Henry Ullmann; "Acute suppurative mastoiditis treated conservatively"—Henry J. Profant; "Parotitis following general surgery"—Horace F. Pierce; "Aphagia"—Hugh Freidell.

The main address of the evening was on "Surgery of the Hand," by Sterling Bunnell of San Francisco, illustrated with lantern slides and with types of splints and apparatus used. This very thorough exposition of technique was much appreciated by the members, and discussion was participated in by Pierce, Schurmeier, Ullmann, Nuzum and Stevens.

SONOMA COUNTY

Sonoma County Medical Society (reported by N. Juell, secretary)—The Sonoma County Medical Society met at the Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce, Thursday, April 10, with twelve members and eighteen visitors present. There was a general discussion, led by Elizabeth Emerson, of the State Board of Health's plan for a medical examination of all children of pre-school age entering school this fall, in which all doctors and dentists are expected to participate, the examination to take place between April 15 and May 15. Dr. Leppo, dentist, spoke on the dental problem. The idea was to decide on the chief points of child hygiene which we should attempt to impress upon the mothers who will be present at the examination.

Kristine Blickert Johnstone of Eldridge was admitted to membership.

The Seminal Vesicles in Arthritis—The necessity of examination and of immediate treatment in those cases of arthritis which are due to the seminal vesicles being the primary site of infection, as in extension of a gonorrheal infection is urged by Daniel E. Shea, Hartford, Conn. (Journal A. M. A., January 26, 1924), and attention is directed to cases in which the seminal vesicles are presumably the site of secondary infection from teeth, tonsils or some other area of infection, and in turn become the focus that supplies toxins to the synovial membranes in arthritis even after the primary area has been destroyed. Cases are cited in which every one of the patients had had arthritis for some period of time, and many of them had had other foci of infection removed with no effect on the arthritic condition. Among the areas previously treated were the tonsils, teeth, colon, and skin. In several of the cases the same organism was found in the original area of infection as was found in the seminal vesicle. Organisms other than the gonococcus found were: *Micrococcus catarrhalis*, *Staphylococcus albus* and *aureus*, *Bacillus coli communis*, *Streptococcus viridans*, hemolytic streptococcus and diphtheroid bacillus. Treatment consisted, as a rule, of non-surgical methods; namely, massage of the seminal vesicles and prostate, heat to the parts and vaccines. Direct medication to the seminal vesicles was used in several cases. Surgical intervention, consisting of vesiculectomy, was used only in very acute conditions in which the contents of the vesicles could not be expressed; also, in one case of hard, fibrous, indurated vesicles that were producing much discomfort.